



General Assembly

February Session, 2008

***Raised Bill No. 435***

LCO No. 757

\*00757\_\_\_\_\_ED\_\*

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:  
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING COMPETITIVE SCHOOL READINESS GRANTS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subdivision (1) of subsection (d) of section 10-16p of the  
2 2008 supplement to the general statutes is repealed and the following  
3 is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2008*):

4 (d) (1) The Commissioner of Education, in consultation with the  
5 Commissioner of Social Services, shall establish a competitive grant  
6 program to provide spaces in accredited school readiness programs for  
7 eligible children who reside (A) in an area served by a priority school  
8 or a former priority school as provided for in subdivision (2) of this  
9 subsection, (B) in a town ranked one to fifty when all towns are ranked  
10 in ascending order according to town wealth, as defined in subdivision  
11 (26) of section 10-262f of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes,  
12 whose school district is not a priority school district pursuant to  
13 section 10-266p of the 2008 supplement to the general statutes, or (C) in  
14 a town formerly a town described in subparagraph (B) of this  
15 subdivision, as provided for in said subdivision (2). A town in which a  
16 priority school is located, a regional school readiness council, pursuant

17 to subsection (c) of section 10-16r, for a region in which such a school is  
 18 located or a town described in subparagraph (B) of this subdivision  
 19 may apply for such a grant in an amount not to exceed one hundred  
 20 seven thousand dollars per priority school or town. Eligibility shall be  
 21 determined for a five-year period based on an applicant's designation  
 22 as having a priority school or being a town described in subparagraph  
 23 (B) of this subdivision for the initial year of application. Grant awards  
 24 shall be made annually contingent upon available funding and a  
 25 satisfactory annual evaluation. The chief elected official of such town  
 26 and the superintendent of schools of the school district or the regional  
 27 school readiness council shall submit a plan, as described in subsection  
 28 (c) of this section, for the expenditure of such grant funds to the  
 29 Department of Education. In awarding grants pursuant to this  
 30 subsection, the commissioner shall give preference to applications  
 31 submitted by regional school readiness councils and may, within  
 32 available appropriations, provide a grant in excess of one hundred  
 33 seven thousand dollars to [towns with two or more priority schools in  
 34 such district] any town eligible for a competitive grant pursuant to this  
 35 section. A town or regional school readiness council awarded a grant  
 36 pursuant to this subsection shall use the funds to purchase spaces for  
 37 such children from providers of accredited school readiness programs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

|           |                     |              |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------|
| Section 1 | <i>July 1, 2008</i> | 10-16p(d)(1) |
|-----------|---------------------|--------------|

***Statement of Purpose:***

To permit the Commissioner of Education to provide grants from unused funds to all eligible towns.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*